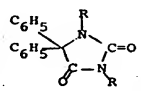
WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A compound having the formula:



wherein R represents H or a member selected from the group consisting of $-\underset{X-R_2}{\overset{|}{CH}}-R_1$; wherein R_1 represents a member selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_7 straight or branched alkyl, CCl_3, CBr_3, CI_3,  , $(CH_3)_2NCH_2$-, -CHO,  ,  ,  ,  , or  ; wherein R_3 represents a member selected from the group consisting of -OH, halogen, $-OCH_3$, $-COOCH_3$, $-NO_2$ or $-OCOCH_3$; wherein X is -O-, -S-, or $-\overset{R_1}{\overset{|}{N}}-$; and wherein R_2 represents a member selected from the group consisting of $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{P}}(OH)_2$ or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_4$, wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of  , wherein R_3 is defined as above,  ,  ,  , the residue of any naturally occurring protein amino acid, the residue of any N- substituted amino acid, wherein said substituent is any amino acid protective group cleavable via hydrogenolysis or hydrolysis or the residue of an N,N-C_1-C_5-dialkyl or C_4-C_7 cycloalkylamino acid, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-CH_2OCH_2\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-OC_2H_5$, or $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-N\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n represents an integer of from 1-5 and R_5 and R_6 which may be the same or different represent C_1-C_5 alkyl or together form a heterocyclic ring with the N atom to which they are attached, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of imidazolyl, -O-C_1-C_8 alkyl, -O-benzyl, -O-phenyl, and $-O-(CH_2)_nN\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n, R_5 and R_6 are defined

as above; with the proviso that R in both occurrences cannot represent H simultaneously; or the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition or basic salts, C_1-C_4 alkylhalide quaternary salts or N-oxide thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1:

3-Hydroxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

3. The compound of claim 1:

3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin.

4. The compound of claim 1:

3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin methanesulfonate.

5. The compound of claim 1:

3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin salicylate.

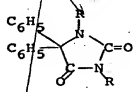
6. The compound of claim 1:

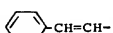
3-Glutaryloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

7. The compound of claim 1:

3-Succinyloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective anticonvulsant antiepileptic or antiarrythmic amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein R represents H or a member selected from the group consisting of $-CH-R_1$ ($X-R_2$); wherein R_1 represents a member selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_7 straight or branched alkyl, CCl_3, CBr_3, CI_3,  , $(CH_3)_2NCH_2-$, -CHO,  ,  ,  ,  , or  ; wherein R_3 represents a member selected from the group consisting of -OH, halogen, $-OCH_3$, $-COOCH_3$, $-NO_2$ or $-OCOCH_3$; wherein X is -O-, -S-, or $-\overset{R_1}{N}-$; and wherein R_2 represents a member selected

from the group consisting of $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{P}}(OH)_2$ or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_4$, wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of  wherein R_3 is defined as above,  ,  , 

the residue of any naturally occurring protein amino acid, the residue of any N- substituted amino acid, wherein said substituent is any amino acid protective group cleavable via hydrogenolysis or hydrolysis or the residue of an N,N-C_1-C_5-dialkyl or C_4-C_7 cycloalkylamino acid, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-CH_2OCH_2\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-OC_2H_5$, or $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-N\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n represents an integer of from 1-5 and R_5 and R_6 which may be the same or different represent C_1-C_5 alkyl or together form a heterocyclic ring with the N atom to which they are attached, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of imidazolyl, -O-C_1-C_8 alkyl, -O-benzyl, -O-phenyl, and $-O-(CH_2)_nN\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n, R_5 and R_6 are defined as above; with the proviso that R in both occurrences cannot represent H simultaneously; or the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition or basic salts, C_1-C_4 alkylhalide quaternary salts or N-oxide thereof in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable inert carrier.

9. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound is: 3-Hydroxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

10. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin.

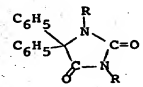
11. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin methanesulfonate.

12. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin salicylate.

13. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound: 3-Glutaryloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

14. The composition of claim 8, wherein said compound: 3-Succinyloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

15. A method for alleviating cardiac arrythmias or convulsions in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering thereto, an effective antiarrythmic or anticonvulsant amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein R represents H or a member selected from the group consisting of $-CH-R_1$ ($X-R_2$); wherein R_1 represents a member selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_7 straight or branched alkyl, CCl_3, CBr_3, CI_3,  , $-(CH_3)_2NCH_2-$, $-CHO$,  ,  ,  ,  , or  ; wherein R_3 represents a member selected from the group consisting of -OH, halogen, $-OCH_3$, $-COOCH_3$, $-NO_2$ or $-OCOCH_3$; wherein X is -O-, -S-, or $-\overset{R_1}{\underset{|}{N}}-$; and wherein R_2 represents a member selected from the group consisting of $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{P}}(OH)-OH$ or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_4$, wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of  , wherein R_3 is defined as above,  ,  , the residue of any naturally occurring protein amino acid, the residue of any N- substituted amino acid, wherein said substituent is any amino acid protective group cleavable via hydrogenolysis or hydrolysis or the residue of an N,N-C_1-C_5-dialkyl or C_4-C_7 cycloalkylamino acid, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-CH_2OCH_2\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-OC_2H_5$, or $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-N\overset{R_5}{\underset{R_6}{<}}$, wherein n represents an integer of from 1-5 and R_5 and R_6 which may be the same or different represent C_1-C_5 alkyl or together form a heterocyclic ring with the N atom to which they are attached, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of imidazolyl, $-O-C_1-C_8$ alkyl, -O-benzyl,

-O-phenyl, and -O-$(CH_2)_n$-N(R_5)(R_6), wherein n, R_5 and R_6 are defined as above; with the proviso that R in both occurrences cannot represent H simultaneously; or the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition or basic salts, C_1-C_4 alkylhalide quaternary salts or N-oxide thereof.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound is: 3-Hydroxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin methanesulfonate.

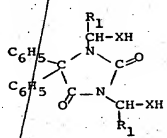
19. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound is: 3-(N,N-Dimethylglycyloxymethyl)diphenylhydantoin salicylate.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound: 3-Glutaryloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound: 3-Succinyloxymethyldiphenylhydantoin.

22. The method of claim 15, wherein said compound is administered in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable inert carrier.

23. The intermediate compound:



wherein R_1 represents a member selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_7 straight or branched alkyl, CCl_3, CBr_3, CI_3,  , $(CH_3)_2NCH_2$-, -CHO,  -O-CH_2-,  -CH=CH-,  ,  N, or  R_3; wherein R_3 represents a member selected from the group consisting of -OH, halogen,

$-OCH_3$, $-COOCH_3$, $-NO_2$ or $-OCOCH_3$; wherein X is -O-, -S-, or $-\overset{R_1}{\underset{|}{N}}-$; and wherein R_2 represents a member selected from the group consisting of $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{P}}(OH)OH$ or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_4$, wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of  wherein R_3 is defined as above,  ,  ,

the residue of any naturally occurring protein amino acid, the residue of any N- substituted amino acid, wherein said substituent is any amino acid protective group cleavable via hydrogenolysis or hydrolysis or the residue of an N,N-C_1-C_5-dialkyl or C_4-C_7 cycloalkylamino acid, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-CH_2OCH_2\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OH$, $-(CH_2)_n\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}OCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-OC_2H_5$, or $-(CH_2)_n-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-N\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n represents an integer of from 1-5 and R_5 and R_6 which may be the same or different represent C_1-C_5 alkyl or together form a heterocyclic ring with the N atom to which they are attached, or wherein R_4 is a member selected from the group consisting of imidazolyl, -O-C_1-C_8 alkyl, -O-benzyl, -O-phenyl, and $-O-(CH_2)_nN\begin{matrix}R_5\\R_6\end{matrix}$, wherein n, R_5 and R_6 are defined as above.